

Message Text

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53

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 EB-11 COME-00 AID-20 SPM-01 DRC-01

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R 101505Z MAY 74

FM AMCONSUL KADUNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2730

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FOL TEL REPEATED FOR FOR YOU INFO:

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SPOP, PINT

SUBJECT: CENSUS RESULTS

1. NOT SURPRISINGLY PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF CENSUS RECEIVED WITH EQUANIMITY (AND SATISFIED SMILE) BY NORTHERNERS. OBVIOUS DIRECTION FROM NORTHERN POINT OF VIEW IS THAT SINCE POPULATION IN WESTERN AND EAST CENTRAL STATES MUST HAVE GROWN DURING PAST DECADE, 1973 RESULTS SHOW JUST HOW MUCH OVERCOUNTING MUST HAVE OCCURRED THOSE AREAS IN PREVIOUS CENSUS. NORTHERNERS ALSO REASON THAT ALL-OUT EFFORT OF OFFICIALS AND TRADITIONAL LEADERS TO EDUCATE PEOPLE ABOUT CENSUS RESULTED IN MORE ACCURATE COUNT IN NORTH THAN IN 1963.

2. NEW NIGERIAN AVOIDED SPECIFIC MENTION OF DECREASE IN WESTERN AND EAST CENTRAL OR ASTOUNDING INCREASE IN NES AND KANO BUT MADE POINT OF MENTIONING SPECIFIC SAFEGUARDS TAKEN TO ENSURE SUCCESS OF CENSUS.

3. COMMENT: NO DOUBT KANO STATE FIGURES ARE MOST QUESTIONABLE AND SEEM MOST LIKELY TO BE CHALLENGED. NES FIGURES PROBABLY WILL INTENSIFY HUE AND CRY FOR NEW STATE WHICH RECENTLY HAD BEEN INCREASING BUT STILL NOT SUBSTANTIAL. GENERALLY, I BELIEVE

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NORTHERNERS MUCH SURPRISED BY RESULTS WHICH THEY WERE

PREPARED TO SEE REFLECT YORUBA DOMINATION OF FEDERAL CENSUS
MACHINERY. THEY WILL UNDOUBTEDLY DEFEND RESULTS BUT NORTH
IS IN POSITION TO ACCEPT SOME DOWNWARD ADJUSTMENT WITHOUT
CREATING UNDUE TENSION.
TRAIL

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Message Attributes

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